

Portsmouth VA

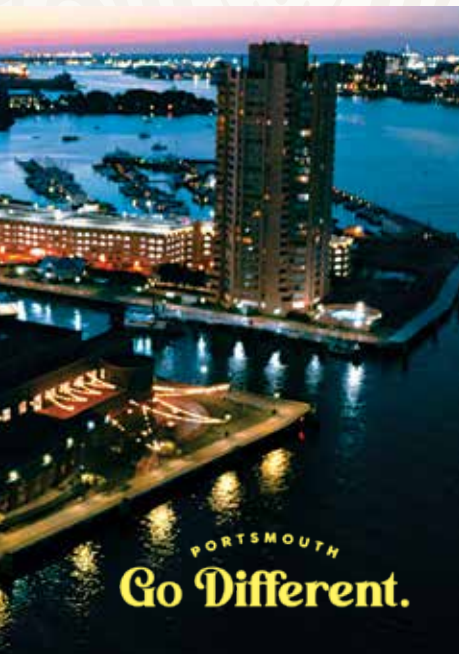
VISITOR'S GUIDE

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Cover Photos:

(FAR LEFT PHOTO)
**THE ELIZABETH RIVER
AT PORTSMOUTH, VA**
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

Left Middle Column:

(TOP PHOTO)
HISTORY ALIVE
PHOTO BY DEANN TROEN
PHOTOGRAPHY

(SECOND PHOTO)
**CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
OF VIRGINIA**
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

(THIRD PHOTO)
**NAVY AIRCRAFT
CARRIER "THE IKE"**
PHOTO BY KEITH TOLER

(FOURTH PHOTO)
RIVERS CASINO SLOTS
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

Right Middle Column:

(TOP PHOTO)
WALL STREET MURAL
PHOTO BY KEITH TOLER

(SECOND PHOTO)
**KAYAKING AT
HOFFLER CREEK
WILDLIFE PRESERVE**
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

(THIRD PHOTO)
**OLDE TOWNE
PORTSMOUTH**
PHOTO DEANN TROEN
PHOTOGRAPHY

Right Column:

(TOP PHOTO)
**COAST GUARD BARQUE
EAGLE AT HIGH STREET
LANDING**
PHOTO BY KEITH TOLER

(SECOND PHOTO)
**HIGH STREET
OLDE TOWNE**
PHOTO DEANN TROEN
PHOTOGRAPHY



Delightfully Different

Welcome to Virginia's Historic Seaport®, Portsmouth, Virginia, where you'll find the best of small-town charm, big city fun, and a bustling maritime community. Go Different. Visit Portsmouth.



What makes Portsmouth delightfully different? Discover a city rooted in over three centuries of history and architecture. Captain John Smith, upon settling nearby Jamestown in 1608, explored the Elizabeth River and noted in his journals an abandoned Native American village, an abundance of hardwood trees, and a deep natural harbor at what would later become Portsmouth. John Wood received a land grant from King James in 1620 and settlement began shortly thereafter. Ferry service between Norfolk and Portsmouth began in 1636, Norfolk County government was formed in 1637 and the first 500-acre land patent was made by Captain William Carver in 1659. The town of Portsmouth was ultimately founded in 1752 by Colonel William Crawford and incorporated into a city in 1858. Our history makes us delightfully different.

Portsmouth was once thought to be an island as it's bordered by both the Elizabeth and James Rivers. With 90 miles of shoreline, it once maintained white sandy beaches and was popular as a resort community. Today, the last of the white sand beaches can be seen at Hospital Point but the city maintains a beautiful waterfront hotel, a variety of locally owned restaurants offering a diverse palate of cuisines, one-of-a-kind boutiques and shops, a vibrant art and music scene, a Vegas-style casino, a Curtis Strange Signature Golf Course, and much more. Our amenities make us delightfully different.

Portsmouth is a military town, no question. The city is home to the nation's oldest naval shipyard, oldest naval medical center, and home to both the 5th District and Atlantic Fleet Command of the United States Coast Guard. For over 250 years and through nine wars, the Gosport Shipyard, now known as Norfolk Naval Shipyard and the people of Portsmouth supported our nation's military. We built the first Navy frigate, the first battleship, the first ironclad, the first aircraft carrier, and America's first hospital ship. We brought the Navy into the nuclear age, and we continue to provide service to the fleet. The naval hospital, now known as Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, was established on the old Fort Nelson site in 1820 and today provides healthcare to more than 400,000 military personnel and their families. And in 2009, the United States Coast Guard named Portsmouth an Official Coast Guard City, acknowledging a partnership that's lasted more than 200 years. Our men and women in uniform make us delightfully different.

We hope you enjoy your visit to Portsmouth – Virginia's Historic Seaport®. Stop by our Welcome Center and let us help to make your visit delightfully different.

(LEFT PHOTO) **ELIZABETH RIVER FERRY**
 (TOP RIGHT PHOTO) **TRAILS AT PARADISE CREEK NATURE PARK**
 (BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO) **THE SEAWALL AT CRAWFORD BAY**
 ALL PHOTOS BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

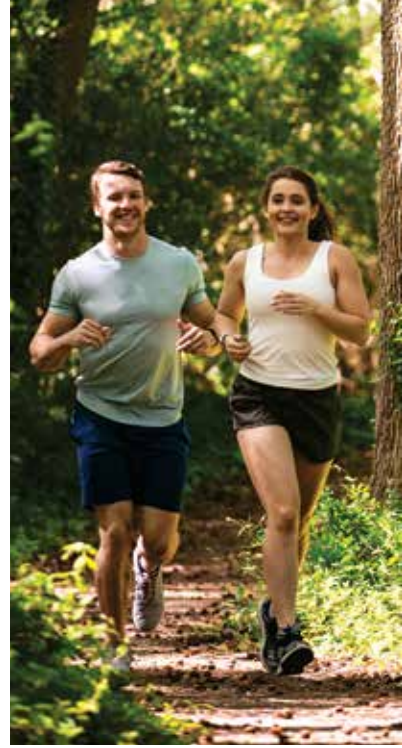


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Artfully Different

Explore a world of murals, sculptures, paintings, ceramics, music, film, literature, and more. Make your visit artfully different.

Support Portsmouth Public Art (SPPA)

SPPA was formed by volunteers in 2010 with a mission dedicated to the purchase and installation of public art throughout the city. Today, they are responsible for over 50 murals and sculptures around the city. The group launched a Wings project to create photo opportunities and kids love to look for Toads up and down High Street. Pick up a Wings or a Toads brochure at the Portsmouth Welcome Center. You can download the art catalog from the Visit Portsmouth website. We hope you visit the entire collection, but here are our Editor's Picks:

- Portsmouth Love Sculpture
- Wall Street Mural Collection
- Sam Welty's Great America Series Murals (Commodore Barron, Battle of Craney Island, Admiral Cradock)
- Colonel Crawford Statue – Sue Landerman
- Portsmouth Gothic Mural by Matt and Crystal Diggs

Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center

Built in 1846, this Greek Revival building served as the county courthouse until 1960. Now, this historic building features a revolving series of sculptures, paintings, and performances.

From April through October, the courtyard comes alive with "First Fridays Concerts in the Courtyard," featuring live music, an art show, and even an antique car show.

On many Saturday mornings, during the Portsmouth Olde Towne Farmers Market, there are live performances, artist demonstrations, and make-take activities.

Hartung Gallery

Since 1968, Hartung Gallery has offered artist and drafting supplies, custom framing, ready-made frames, art prints and original pieces for sale.

That Art Store

An art and craft boutique featuring a retail collection of local artists, artisans, and crafters. Their monthly calendar lists ever-changing classes, workshops, art parties as well as make-and-take activities for kids and adults.

Art Markets

Portsmouth supports local artists. Look for one-of-a-kind pieces during First Fridays Concerts in the Courtyard, First Saturdays Art Market, spring and fall Markets, pop up markets around town, and of course, the renowned Portsmouth Seawall Art Show on the last weekend in August.



(ABOVE PHOTO)
**DOORS,
PORCHES
AND GARDENS**
PHOTO BY
MATT HILDRETH

(RIGHT PHOTO)
THE HIKER
PHOTO BY
ROCK MCNELLY

(TOP RIGHT
PHOTO)
**WALL STREET
MURALS**
PHOTO BY
KEITH TOLER





LIVE MUSIC AT
SOUND BAR
PHOTO BY
PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO)
THE MUSTARD
SEED PLACE
MURAL
PHOTO BY
KEITH TOLER

(BOTTOM RIGHT
PHOTO)
OLDE TOWNE
NIGHTLIFE
PHOTO BY
PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

Performing Arts

Atlantic Union Bank Pavilion

With nearly perfect acoustics, this 6500-seat, waterfront amphitheater provides entertainment three seasons a year. Past performers include Maren Morris, The Black Crowes, Robert Plant with Allison Kraus, Slightly Stoopid, Chaka Khan, the Avett Brothers, and many others.

Portsmouth Community Concerts, Inc.

Since 1938, Portsmouth Community Concerts brings quality performances and internationally renowned artists to the region. From September through May, a season of music ranging from orchestral to jazz and contemporary takes place at I. C. Norcom High School. Check upcoming events on our website for performance dates.

The Zelma G. Riven Wonderful Wednesdays Summer Music Series

Each summer, the Jewish Museum and Cultural Center brings an incredible lineup of artists to the city. Chamber music artists, jazz performers, classical pianists, brass ensembles, and more grace the stage at Chevra T'helim. Each year, the series concludes with traditional Yiddish theater music from the party band Bagels and Fraylox Klezmer Band.

Film and Literary Arts

The Commodore THEATRE

Enjoy first run films in a restored art-deco theatre listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Commodore Theatre has been a fixture on High Street since 1945. Dinner is served at your table while you watch the film and it's the only theatre in the region with THX sound.

Jewish Film Series

Join us in the winter months for the Jewish Film Festival at the Jewish Museum and Cultural Center. The series stretches over five to seven weeks each year and each film is selected and presented by a guest speaker for the evening.

Readings and Bookshops

Meet local authors at our spring and fall markets or stop into a local bookstore like Jeannie's Used Books, The Book Owl, or The Printed Word. The Portsmouth Public Library offers books for sale every Saturday and they sponsor a Local Authors Expo every June.



Hill House Museum

A private residence built in 1825, the Hill House was home to three generations of Hills. In 1956, the three surviving Hill sisters made a gift of their home and its entire contents to the Portsmouth Historical Association. The cumulative acquisitions of the original china, crystal, furnishings, window dressings, and more, give visitors a factual look at the lives of the Hills during 190 years of family occupancy of this stately home.

thehillhousemuseum.org

221 North Street / 757-393-0421

Jewish Museum and Cultural Center

This rare surviving example of Eastern European Jewish Orthodoxy is a solemn place where visitors can celebrate and learn about Jewish history, faith, and culture. The museum, located inside Portsmouth's oldest synagogue, Chevra T'helim, houses artifacts and exhibits that reflect the history of the Hampton Roads Jewish community. On display is an eighteenth-century Torah Scroll rescued from a synagogue in Třebíč, a city in the former Czechoslovakia during the Holocaust.

www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org

607 Effingham Street / 757-391-9266

Lightship Portsmouth Museum

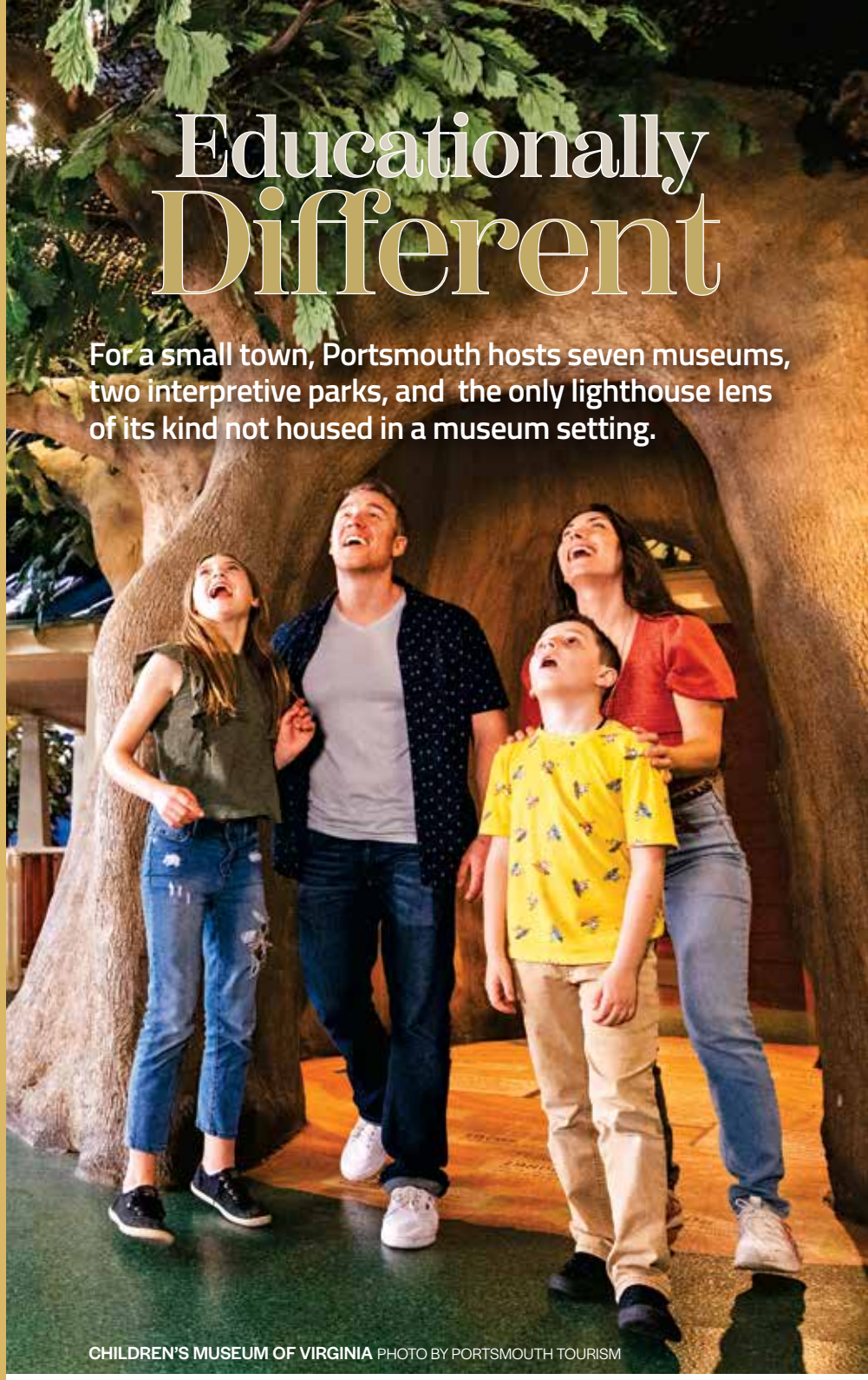
A little-known asset of America's maritime, these unique vessels once functioned as floating lighthouses off the coastlines to guide passing vessels and warn of dangers. Few remain in existence today. On September 3, 1964, the LV-101 was donated to the city to become a part of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum. Outfitted as it looked in 1955 when it housed an 11-man crew for months at a time, this lightship-turned-museum is "permanently anchored" along the waterfront near the Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel and a short distance from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum. Lightship Portsmouth was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1989.

<https://PortsmouthLightship.com>

757-392-8591

Educationally Different

For a small town, Portsmouth hosts seven museums, two interpretive parks, and the only lighthouse lens of its kind not housed in a museum setting.



CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF VIRGINIA PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

Children's Museum of Virginia

Portsmouth is home to the largest, hands-on interactive museum for children in Virginia. With 70,000 sq. ft. of exhibits spread across two floors of an old department store, the Children's Museum of Virginia is a place where families are encouraged to imagine, explore, and discover together through play. While designed for kids under ten, adults love it too, especially the Lancaster Antique Toy and Train display and the state-of-the-art Beazley Planetarium. This is a busy museum, so you are encouraged to reserve your time and buy your tickets online at **www.childrensmuseumvirginia.com** / **221 High Street / 757-393-5258**

Portsmouth Colored Community Library Museum

This nationally registered historic site is located inside a small, one-story brick building that once housed over 10,000 books. It was the only library for the African American community from 1945 to 1963, when the city's main library was first integrated. This restored building was moved from its original location at South Street near Effingham Street to preserve its significant history. In addition to its permanent collection of artifacts, the museum offers a changing gallery featuring topics of significance to the time.

portsmouthccim.com
904 Elm Avenue / 757-392-8591

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum

Here is where you can immerse yourself in the history of Portsmouth's shipbuilding maritime heritage. This maritime museum continues to research, preserve, and promote the history of the City of Portsmouth, the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, and the armed forces in Hampton Roads by offering exhibitions, publications, lectures, and educational programs. The history and significance of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard's role in shaping our Navy is on display, along with Ironclad exhibits, wooden ship models, military artifacts, weaponry, photos, and more.

Portsmouthnavalshipyardmuseum.com
2 High Street / 757-392-8591

Railroad Museum of Virginia

Discovered in a scrap yard in Roanoke, Virginia, this restored steam engine with three cars is a testament to Portsmouth's shipyard and railroad history. Although currently not open for tours, it can be viewed from the Path of History tour and provides a unique photo opportunity. Harbor Center Way and Path of History

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO)
FRESNEL LENS
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

(RIGHT PHOTO)
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD MUSEUM
PHOTO BY DE ANN TROEN PHOTOGRAPHY

(BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO)
LIGHTSHIP PORTSMOUTH
PHOTO BY DE ANN TROEN PHOTOGRAPHY

The Fresnel Lens

Valued at over \$1 million dollars, this is the only first-order, Fresnel lighthouse lens of its kind not found inside a museum setting. Instead, it's available for all to see as they stroll the Portsmouth Seawall. The lens dates to 1896 when it was a part of the Hog Island Light, just off the Eastern Shore of Virginia. It weighs 2500 pounds and has over 250 prisms of optical glass. Located along the Seawall, just south of the High Street inlet.

Gosport Interpretive Park

The south end of Portsmouth's Path of History trail, Gosport Park tells the story of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard using a collection of 14 path of History Interpretive signs and mounted military artifacts. This outdoor museum allows you to learn about the shipyard against a backdrop of the original Gosport Yard, Drydock One, Quarters A, and the Hammerhead Crane. Located between Wavy St and Lincoln Street, behind the Pavilion.

Fort Nelson Interpretive Park

Another outdoor museum located at the north end of the Path to History. Fort Nelson Park tells the story of the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, known to locals as the Naval Hospital. Dating to 1820, it's the oldest continuously operating naval hospital in America and the story is told from inception to present day using over a dozen interpretive signs and a variety of naval artifacts. Located at the corner of Crawford Parkway and Effingham Street, near the main gate of the hospital.



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Tastefully Different

Portsmouth is known for its locally and chef owned restaurants. You'll enjoy a one-of-a-kind dining experience in restaurants all over town.

Olde Towne

When staying overnight or visiting by ferry, you have a wonderful opportunity to explore a variety of restaurants within one square mile of your location. Historic Olde Towne Portsmouth is the jewel of the city, easily walked, and known for eclectic dining. While most of the restaurants are found along High Street, the cross streets are filled with dining opportunities too. Many Olde Towne restaurants offer patio and sidewalk dining while some are located along the shores of the Elizabeth River, providing an unsurpassed view of the bustling seaport harbor.

If you're looking for authentic international cuisine, you'll find delicious Thai food at Bangkok Garden and Thai Basil, German food and over 300 European beers at the Bier Garden, Mexican at Guads or Cancun Fiesta, Mediterranean and Italian at Gino's, Five Boroughs, and Ten 10. For the best Detroit style pizza in Coastal Virginia, don't miss High Street Pizza and Pour House. Ox tails calling your name, don't miss Thyme on the River for delicious Jamaican food served with a waterfront view. Or visit the local speakeasy, Still Worldly Eclectic Tapas, for a taste of Spain and a signature cocktail.

No visit to a historic seaport town is complete without a sampling of some of the regional seafood. Lobscouser is one of the oldest restaurants along High Street and is a local's favorite for fresh seafood. Fish & Slips Marina Raw Bar and Grill is located at the end of dock B at Tidewater Yacht Marina and has one of the best waterfront views in all Coastal Virginia. Almost every restaurant in town offers some type of seafood option.

Looking for casual fun, Olde Towne has sports bars and taverns too. Baron's is the oldest restaurant on High St. and is known for the Baron Burger. Just across the street Longboards is the place for shrimp tacos, chicken wings, and burgers. Ready to watch the game while you dine, Roger Brown's, Griff's, and Olde Towne Public House are the places to go. Roger Brown's was founded by the NFL sports legend himself and has the largest screens in town. Griff's has pool tables to keep you entertained between bites. Olde Towne Public House rocks the wood-fired pizza oven, the fish tacos, and steaks, keeping you well fed throughout the games.

Breakfast lunch or dinner, you're sure to find just the right meal to suit your palate. The Coffee Shoppe, Cure Coffeehouse, and Yoolks on Us are great choices for breakfast. Beyond Vegan Cell Food and the Downtown Eatery are delicious lunch options. Take in dinner and a movie at the historic Commodore Theatre. Check out the food truck at Post Secondary Brewing. Grab Sunday brunch at Privilege. There are so many options in Olde Towne, you can't go wrong.



**CURE COFFEEHOUSE
OLDE TOWNE**
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO)
**APPETIZERS AT BEACON'S
AT THE RENAISSANCE HOTEL**
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM



Restaurants and Bars with Live Music and Entertainment

Supporting local means supporting local music too. Here are a few places around town well-known for hosting local music.

- Admiral's Steakhouse
- Baron's Pub
- The Barrel Restaurant and Lounge
- Beacon's Lounge
- Harbor Trail Brewing
- MoMac Brewing
- Olde Towne Public House/The Famous Venue (*Two venues at the same place*)
- Post Secondary Brewing
- Rivers Burger Bistro
- Roger Brown's Restaurant and Sports Bar
- Sound Bar at Rivers Casino
- Twisted Pig Ale and Smokehouse
- Venue 757
- The Well Coffeehouse



Beyond Olde Towne

Portsmouth is a city of neighborhoods. You can find good food almost anywhere you go. Historic Port Norfolk has some of the best smoked BBQ around at Twisted Pig Ale and Smokehouse as well as great pizza and Italian at The Box. For something totally delish, try local soul food at Midtown’s District Restaurant. Check out Greater Grinders, Sal’s Pizza, or Island Bar and Grill, all locally owned Midtown establishments. Out in Churchland, JoJack’s Espresso Bar & Café offers phenomenal breakfast items and lunch sandwiches. Stop in to Gourmet Burger Bistro for the award-winning Empire Burger. Don’t miss The Barrel for great drinks, sports, and home cooking. If you’re over by City Park, Bubba and Franks gets rave reviews for their barbeque and East Side Pizza is a Portsmouth institution.



With the new Rivers Casino in operation, there are many new restaurants popping up in the Victory Crossing area. One of the finest steak and seafood restaurants anywhere in the region can be found inside the casino at Admiral’s Steakhouse. To support the increased casino traffic, The Table Tapas, specializing in small plate meats and seafood, opened in 2024 along with The Twisted Crab, Victory Rivers Burger Bistro and Guava. These new places compliment the restaurants which have called this area home for years, like Los Amigos, Rick’s Frozen Custard, Vietnam 81 and Darla’s Seafood. If you’re visiting the casino, the Norfolk Naval

Shipyards, Paradise Creek Nature Park, LeMans Karting, or historic Afton Square, you should definitely check out the area’s cuisine.

For the most current restaurant information, visit the dining section of our website or pick up a Portsmouth Restaurant Retail Guide at our Welcome Center.

Discover Craft Beers

Besides having many fine restaurants that serve libations around town, Portsmouth is also home to three craft breweries that each offer a whole lot of fun in family and pet friendly environments. Test your knowledge on trivia nights, enjoy a fun game of Bingo, tap your toes to local musicians, sample unique flavors with catchy titles, and taste from a variety of visiting food vendors.

Harbor Trail Brewing Company, located in the Churchland area about 6 miles west of Olde Towne, brings you local craft beers “simple and done well.”

Also in Churchland, Portsmouth’s oldest brewery, **MoMac Brewing Company** is named after the famous battle between the Monitor and the Merrimack, which occurred in the nearby waterways.

Post Secondary Brewing is a small family-owned brewery, surrounded by brick walls that bring out Olde Towne’s historic flavor as surely as their beers provide the flavor in your glass!

(TOP PHOTO)
FISH & SLIPS MARINA RAW BAR AND GRILL
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

(MIDDLE PHOTO)
TWISTED PIG ALE AND SMOKEHOUSE
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

(LEFT PHOTO)
JO JACK’S ESPRESSO BAR & CAFÉ
PHOTO BY RENAE MCCONNELL



Eventfully Different



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From the weekly Farmers Market to the Race to Cock Island, Oktoberfest, a Scottish Walk, and Virginia's oldest African American Heritage Festival, this historic seaport city knows how to throw a party. These are just a few of the events produced each year. Check the website's upcoming events to find the dates, times, more information, and more events.

(TOP PHOTO)
**PORTSMOUTH OLDE
TOWNE FARMERS MARKET**
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO)
**ATLANTIC UNION BANK
PAVILION**
PHOTO BY REBECCA COUTCHINS

(BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO)
HISTORY ALIVE
PHOTO BY DEANN TROEN
PHOTOGRAPHY

Portsmouth Olde Towne Farmers Market

Saturdays: Voted Best Farmers Market in Hampton Roads and 2nd Best in Virginia, this is more than a farmer's market. It's a yoga event, a classic car show, a stage show, a place to see costumed characters from the Marquis de Lafayette to Darth Vader, and much more. It's never the same twice.

Sunset Thursdays

Mid-June through the end of August: Bring a chair or a blanket and enjoy live music, waterfront breezes, food, beverages, and people watching. The band changes each week, but the good times stay the same. Join the fun at Festival Park.

First Friday

Concerts in the Courtyard

First Friday of every month April – October

Enjoy live music under stately oaks in the courtyard of Portsmouth's 1846 Courthouse, now known as the Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center. The music genre changes each month, but you will also find a classic car show, an art market, ice cold beverages, and snacks. If you want to meet the locals, this is the place to do it.

First Saturday Art Market

April – December: Artisans, artists, and authors line the streets from the edge of the Farmers Market at High and Court, continuing down toward Middle Street. You can chat in person with the creators of art, photography, and literature.

Olde Towne Antique and Flea Market

First Saturday of every month year-round: A favorite of locals and visitors alike, this market is a treasure hunter's dream come true! Collectors and shoppers peruse 70+ vendors with an ever-changing inventory. Come on down, rain or shine, inside the Middle Street Garage, we've got you covered while you shop.



A Post Such as Portsmouth

Spring (March or April): Be transported to 1781 in the midst of the Revolutionary War, when British forces, led by the notorious turncoat General Benedict Arnold, occupied Portsmouth and carried out raids throughout Hampton Roads. Numerous short skits, vignettes, and hands-on demonstrations of 18th century life occur throughout the day.

Portsmouth Invitational Tournament (P.I.T.)

April: Since 1953, one of the top events of the professional basketball scouting calendar comes to Portsmouth. This college senior, invite-only tournament officially kicks off the pre-draft process. Over the years, the P.I.T. has welcomed

players that went on to become household names, like Rick Barry, Earl "The Pearl" Monroe, Dave Cowens, Scottie Pippen, Tim Hardaway, Dennis Rodman, Jimmy Butler and others.

Steeple to Steeple Tour

Mother's Day Weekend: This tour of seven historic churches and one synagogue in Olde Towne Portsmouth highlights the architecture, stained glass, and memorabilia of these historic structures. You'll hear stories of the Yellow Fever epidemic, the Underground Railroad, the Irish immigrants who built a masterpiece here, the Jewish community who began settling in Portsmouth as early as 1916, and so much more.

Umoja Festival

Memorial Day Weekend: Named for a Kiswahili word meaning "Unity," the Portsmouth Umoja Festival is one of the oldest festivals celebrating African American culture in the United States. The festival offers an exciting blend of ancient and contemporary art forms over three days. It includes nationally acclaimed musical acts, children's activities, and a world of traditional foods, arts, crafts, heritage tours of the city, and other entertainment.





Memorial Day Parade

Memorial Day: Established in 1884, this time-honored tradition salutes the military. Generations of families gather each year to commemorate the occasion. This is one of the oldest Memorial Day Parades in the nation.

The Seawall Music Festival

Harborfest Weekend – June: Held in conjunction with Norfolk's Harborfest, guests ride the ferry between the two cities to enjoy all the festivals have to offer. On the Portsmouth side, enjoy two days of great food while listening to local and national entertainment at High Street Landing, capped off by a spectacular Saturday night fireworks show.

Race to Cock Island

June: The Cock Island Race is a legendary sailing event on the Elizabeth River. From the north end of the Portsmouth Seawall, spectators can watch the start and finish of this sailing regatta for up to 100 boats.

Seawall Art Show

Last weekend in August: The two-day Seawall Art Show features 85+ juried artists offering a variety of creative works for sale. The show spans two blocks of High Street and features artist demonstrations, live performances, and a student art show too.

Paddle Battle

September: A kayak and stand-up paddleboard race on the Elizabeth River. The race is about a mile from High Street Landing to the Hammerhead Crane and back. Includes a Navy vs. Coast Guard Challenge and a junior race just for kids.

Olde Towne Ghost Walk

Friday before Halloween: Modeled after the Jack-the-Ripper Walks in London, the Ghost Walk has been in ethereal existence since 1984. Patrons are guided on a walking tour through the historic district, where the ghosts of Olde Towne lament lost loves and spin tales of mischief and mayhem. Costumed actors recount the legends of each haunted house, where ghostly visitations and strange happenings have occurred.

Olde Towne Holiday Lights

Friday before Thanksgiving: Olde Towne kicks off the holidays in style! Seasonal entertainers perform, and costumed characters bring the magic of the season to life, much to the delight of young and old.

Winter Wonderland

Friday after Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve: The Coleman Nursery Collection offers a nostalgic, holiday-themed visual treat for young and old alike. Visit the

animated scenes of Christmas trees and lights, ice skaters, children sledding, a Victorian chalet, caroling villagers, and more. Visit the famous nativity scene at Monumental Methodist Church, just around the corner.

Holiday Nights at City Park

Hop aboard the Pokey Smokey and take a ride around Portsmouth City Park to see the holiday light show. Open weekends during the season.

Olde Towne Holiday Music Festival

Second Saturday in December: The Olde Towne Holiday Music Festival is the signature holiday event for the City of Portsmouth. Holiday music fills the streets and the shops, along with bonfires for roasting marshmallow, costumed characters, and activities for the kids.

Olde Towne Scottish Walk

New Year's Eve: Modeled after Scotland's Hogmanay celebration, the Scottish Walk brings locals and visitors together for a procession through Olde Towne led by traditional pipe-and-drum bands. It's a time-honored tradition to support the merchants and barkeeps before and after the walk.

(TOP LEFT PHOTO)
UMOJA FESTIVAL
PHOTO BY JEN MUNICK,
LOOK PORTRAITS

(BOTTOM LEFT PHOTO)
SEAWALL ART SHOW
PHOTO BY JEN MUNICK,
LOOK PORTRAITS

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO)
SCOTTISH WALK
PHOTO BY KEITH TOLER

(BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO)
OKTOBERFEST
PHOTO BY JEN MUNICK,
LOOK PORTRAITS



Playfully Different

Roll the dice, swing the club, paddle the boat, and drive the track, there's a variety of options for fun all over town.

Rivers Casino Portsmouth

Las Vegas style gaming now in Virginia, Rivers Casino offers a 50,000 sq. ft. gaming floor, with 57 gaming tables for Baccarat, Craps, Roulette, Blackjack, and more. Poker your game? Take a seat at one of the 24 poker tables and place your bet. The atmosphere is electric with the sounds of more than 1400 slot machines and BetRivers Sportsbook, a dedicated sports betting theatre with large screen televisions to keep you on the edge of your seat. Rivers Casino offers a variety of restaurants, entertainment, special events, and a Top Golf experience like no other. Just three miles from historic Olde Towne, Rivers Casino is easily accessed directly from I-264 and parking is always free.

LeMans Karting and Entertainment Center

Take the family for a day of indoor fun at LeMans Karting for hi-speed go-karting, axe throwing, laser tag, arcade games, and even a gel blaster arena. Three types of karts provide access to racers of all ages and skill levels on Virginia's largest indoor Go-Karting Track—the MegaTrack. Beyond karting, engage in thrilling laser tag battles in various modes, enjoy the excitement of the gel blasters, or test your precision with axe throwing.

The Elizabeth River Ferry

Ferry service between Portsmouth and Norfolk dates to 1636 when Mr. Thoroughgood rowed a skiff across the Elizabeth River. Today, you can still take that ride. Travel between Portsmouth and Norfolk on a pedestrian paddlewheel ferry. Two

stops are in Portsmouth: one at North Landing and one at High Street. Passengers take a quick, economical river crossing to the Waterside District in downtown Norfolk. Ferries operate every 30 minutes with 15-minute service during the summer at peak times on weekends. A dedicated ferry runs to Harbor Park Stadium when the Norfolk Tides play at home.

The Pokey Smokey

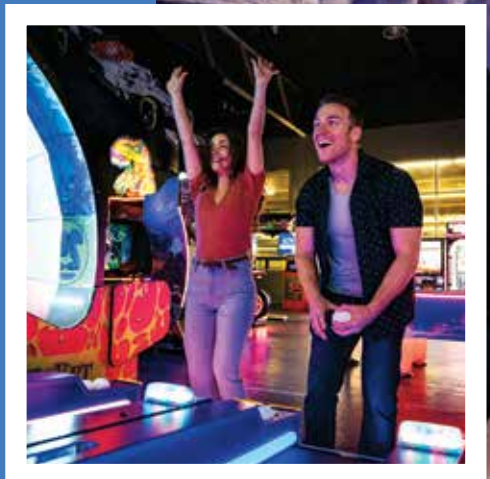
Take a ride around Portsmouth City Park aboard the Pokey Smokey II. While the original Pokey Smokey was steam powered, the Pokey Smokey II still looks like a miniature steam engine but she's powered by gas. Runs weekends spring, summer, and fall. The best time to take a ride is during the holiday season to see all the holiday lights.

Bide-a-Wee Golf Course

A Curtis Strange signature course, Bide-a-Wee has an eighteen-hole, par 72 course with a total length of 6940 yards and a slope of 130. It features Champion Turf greens, narrow and challenging fairways lined with majestic pines, and several picturesque lakes and ponds throughout the course.

The Links at City Park

If you don't have time for 18-holes, try the Executive 9-hole course and driving range located at The Links at City Park. The Links are also an AFGI Certified FootGolf Course for those interested in this new take on "golf" where players use their feet to kick a soccer ball into a cup in as few kicks as possible.





Portsmouth City Park

Located on the banks of the Western Branch of the Elizabeth River, the park offers beautiful waterfront views with access to launch and retrieve ramps for your boat or jet ski. Play 9-holes of golf with your clubs or your feet (yes, an American Foot Golf certified course), hit the driving range or pick up a game of pickle ball. Picnic shelters with grills line the boardwalk or rent one of the big shelters for a party. Bring the kids to play on the best playground equipment in the region, ride the Pokey Smokey, or fish from the piers. City Park hosts weddings, meetings, festivals, and just about anything else you can imagine.

Hoffler Creek Wildlife Preserve

Paddle, hike, or spot wildlife in 142 acres of suburban wilderness in Churchland. The perimeter of the preserve is bordered by Hoffler Creek which flows into the James River. More than three miles of trails surround a 32-acre man-made brackish lake in the center of the preserve. Habitats within the preserve support a diverse population of plant and animal life, ranging from birds to oysters to foxes. Rent kayaks by the hour and explore the waterways of this peaceful park. Settle into a bird blind and see which species you can identify.

Paradise Creek Nature Park

This 40-acre, waterfront park provides the rare opportunity to enjoy a restored Elizabeth River firsthand. Enjoy hiking and bird watching along two miles of trails that lead the visitor through an urban forest under revitalization, 11 acres of new tidal wetlands, and past the industrial partners all doing their part to bring back our home river. The park offers a festive playground for the kids plus a variety of public art throughout.

Cradock Skateboard Park

Skateboarding enthusiasts will enjoy the opportunity to test their wheels at this park in the Cradock Historic District. Half-pipe, quarter-pipe, grind rails, and other components are all adorned with artwork from local artists. Since 2021, Hard Times Skate Shop has joined with Portsmouth's Parks and Recreation Department, and local sponsors, to host the Go Skate Daze in June.



(BOTTOM LEFT PHOTO)
**LEMANS KARTING
ARCADE**
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

(MIDDLE PHOTO)
RIVERS CASINO SLOTS
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

TOP LEFT PHOTO)
LEMANS KARTING
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO)
HOFFLER CREEK YOGA
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

(BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO)
CITY PARK PLAYGROUND
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH
TOURISM

(RIGHT PHOTO)
**CRADOCK SKATEBOARD
PARK**
PHOTO BY LEE DEAR – MOBILE
PHOTO LAB



Shop Different



While you can find a few chain, big box stores around town, Portsmouth is best known for its mom-and-pop run stores where you are likely to meet the owner anytime you stop by.

E

xperience the charm of High Street where you'll find one-of-a-kind shops like the Kitchen Koop, Anderson-Wright Rooms and Gardens, The Bier Garden German Market, Market Street General Store, Bloom Market, Hard Times Skate Shop, and many others. These family run businesses are the backbone of the community, with many of the owners living above their shops and enhancing the community feel throughout Olde Towne.

Extend your visit to include shopping in Midtown, Churchland or the Cradock areas of the city. You'll find more small shops including vintage and thrift shops, cozy bookstores, lingerie and accessories, furniture, art, clothing and more. There are delicious bakeries like Silver Spoon Bakery, Asian and Spanish grocery stores, health food shops, and even a garden shop, all tucked away among the larger chains and big box stores found in these neighborhoods.

For a more extensive list of shops, visit our website or pick up a copy of our Restaurant Retail Guide at the Portsmouth Welcome Center.



Nostalgically Different

Visit these off the beaten track stores doing business in Portsmouth for more than 50 years.

Portsmouth Armie Navie

From its inception as a neighborhood grocery store to its current location at 1817 High Street, this venerable favorite is a major supplier of military and work clothes. Other nostalgic and eclectic merchandise fills the store with a mix of modern necessities and timeless memorabilia. Three generations of the Frank family continue the traditions to this day.

Norfolk County Feed and Seed

This family-owned-and-operated general store opened in 1947 at 1110 Airline Boulevard and boasts two generations of workers providing home, lawn, and garden goods to the residents of Portsmouth and the surrounding areas. Here you will find some of the original items once used for business, including inventory and accounting books on display along with many other interesting items. Don't miss

the beautiful "Walk Through Christmas" held each year during the holidays.

Hartung Gallery

The store opened in 1968 by the Hartung family with the dream of painting and selling art. The first location was only 10ft wide but today, with the help of three generations of the Hartung family, they occupy their own 4000 sq. ft building offering custom framing, art and drafting supplies, and original works by local artists.

(LEFT PHOTO)

ANDERSON WRIGHT ROOMS AND GARDENS
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO)

CYCLE CLASSICS
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

(BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO)

KITCHEN KOOP
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM



Portsmouth is home to many historical events that helped to shape this nation. In 1781, the British troops, under command of General Cornwallis and the notorious traitor Benedict Arnold occupied Portsmouth. The first African American spy, James Armistead Lafayette provided crucial intel to the Continental Army detailing Cornwallis's movement of troops to Yorktown and this information eventually led to the surrender of British forces and American independence.

Portsmouth is also known for its role in the War of 1812, particularly the Battle at Craney Island. In June 1813, a British force of 2500 men and over 40 ships attacked Portsmouth from both the Elizabeth River and the James River. A small American force of only 700 men and a few gunboats defeated the British in this famous battle, saving the cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth, and the towns of northeastern North Carolina from occupation and allowing shipping commerce to continue. A mural at High Street and Green Street in Olde Towne depicts the highlights of the battle.

During the Civil War, the city was once again occupied. While Norfolk was burned by Union forces, Portsmouth, and its architecture, were spared. Portsmouth was an important stop along the Underground Railroad, hiding runaway slaves until they could gain safe passage aboard ships headed north. The Naval Shipyard converted the USS Merrimack into the Ironclad CSS Virginia and the famous Battle of the Ironclads happened just off our shores.

Portsmouth was ground zero for the 1855 Yellow Fever Epidemic, one of the worst in U.S. history, taking the lives of over 4000 residents, shutting down businesses, churches, markets, and the harbor. City government collapsed and those who survived did so with the help of outside civic and medical organizations. In the end, over 1/3 of the population died and it took years for the region to finally recover.

There are so many stories like the ones mentioned here that are worth sharing. We hope you will tour some of our historic sites and discover what makes Portsmouth historically different.

Historically Different

When you come to Portsmouth, history comes to you as you experience the city's role in the growth of our nation. Self-guided walking tours take you past hundreds of historical points of interest. Guided tours with costumed reenactors bring history to life, as only our characters can!



(TOP LEFT PHOTO)
A POST SUCH AS PORTSMOUTH
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

MIDDLE STREET HOME – OLDE TOWNE
PHOTO PROVIDED BY PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY – HISTORY ROOM

Five Historic Neighborhoods found on the National Register of Historic Places.

CRADOCK

When America entered the first world war, the influx of shipyard workers overwhelmed the housing in the city and surrounding areas. Cradock was established in 1918 as one of the nation's first federally funded, planned communities. Designed in the shape of an anchor with a centralized commercial area, the community is home to a variety of architectural styles, including Colonial Revival, Federal, and Sears Craftsman homes.

TRUXTUN

Only a few minutes from Cradock, Truxtun was established exclusively for African American workers and their families during World War I. Smaller in size than Cradock, the community

contains similar style homes, and is known for its prominence of Jerkinhead roofs, or clipped gable structures.

OLDE TOWNE

The oldest historic district in Portsmouth, Olde Towne was placed on the National Register of Historic Place in 1970.

PARK VIEW

The Park View Historic District, located in the northeastern area of city, was the first residential suburb north of the downtown commercial area. Electric streetcars, mass-produced building materials, and building and loan associations all contributed to the availability of affordable housing within the neighborhood, which was located on the outskirts of the city until annexed in 1894.

PORT NORFOLK

The Port Norfolk Historic District was built on land donated by Colonel Crawford to serve as the glebe for Portsmouth Parish and Trinity Church. This land was also the site of the British landing when Portsmouth and Norfolk were captured during the Revolution. The name Port Norfolk is derived from the combination of the words Portsmouth and Norfolk. Like Park View to its east, Port Norfolk was an attempt by developers to satisfy the need for middle-class housing for a fast-growing workforce employed by Portsmouth's railroad, shipping, and manufacturing industries.



Guided Historic Tours offered by History Alive

History Alive is a local tour company specializing in all things Portsmouth. You might find some of their characters strolling the streets at the Farmer's Market or greeting arriving passengers from the Elizabeth River Ferry. Feel free to speak with them about the city, ask them questions about their characters, or even take a selfie with them. Sometimes, you might even hear a bawdy sea shanty! But, if you want an in-depth tour of historical sites, maybe with a little song and dance along the way, schedule a personalized walking tour. Topics include Sails and Rails, Heroes and History, Homes and History, Underground Railroad, even a Ghost Walk.

Self-Guided History Tours

Path of History – this tour takes up to 2 hours on foot and links the Fort Nelson Interpretive Park to the Gosport Interpretive Park. It winds through the Olde Towne Historic district and along the Seawall. There are over 50 interpretive signs along the way. You can pick up a Path of History brochure at the Portsmouth Welcome Center or download it to your phone. Don't have two hours to spare, no worries, pick it up and do a portion at a time.

Underground Railroad Tour – this tour reveals Olde Towne's fascinating role as a hub for enslaved people escaping to freedom on northbound ships. You can download the brochure directly to your phone or click on a link and enjoy an audio tour with easy walking directions.

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO) **HISTORIC OLDE TOWNE**
PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

The Architecture Walk – Meander through Olde Towne's picturesque streets which showcase mansions, townhouses, and churches spanning over three centuries. The oldest home is a colonial cottage dating back to the 1740s. Download the tour to your phone.

The Seawall Stroll – Enjoy a mix of old and new along this walk. You'll see the Fresnel Lens, a 1915 Lightship, along with modern day art and hotels. The Seawall overlooks a bustling harbor so there is no telling what type of ships you might see pass along the way. Download your tour guide to your phone.

All tours may be downloaded to your phone at www.portsvacation.com/walking-tours/

HISTORICAL MARKERS AND WAR MEMORIALS

According to The Historical Markers Database, over 100 historical markers, plaques, and war memorials have been erected around the city detailing significant events and locations in Portsmouth's history. You will also find markers for Virginia's Civil War Trails and for Virginia's Road to Revolution.

Historical Sidewalk Markers – While you walk through the brick-lined sidewalks of Olde Towne, glance down as you reach the intersections of the historic district. There you will notice granite markers denoting the original Olde Towne Squares implemented by Colonel Crawford. They provide a glimpse of how the city looked when it was founded in 1752.

(BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO) **OLDE TOWNE SCOTTISH WALK**
PHOTO BY ROBERT ZIEGENFUS



Notably Different

Portsmouth is home to icons of sports, literature, art, fashion, music, stage, government, and history.

NATIVE-BORN

V. C. Andrews (née Cleo Virginia Andrews), author of *Flowers in the Attic* and other works

Ruth Brown, R&B singer, 1993 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee, Broadway Actress. A Virginia Historic Marker was erected in her honor and placed next door to the Emanuel A.M.E. Church.

LaTasha Colander, 2000 Olympic gold medalist in track and field

Bill Deal, formed The Rhondels with Ammon Tharp, a blue-eyed soul and beach band earning three Top 100 Hits in 1969. Bill Deal St. connects Olde Towne's Water Street with Harbor Court.

Tommy Facenda, musician & 2012 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee best known for his song High School U.S.A.

Missy Elliott, Grammy Award-winning rapper and 2019 Songwriters Hall of Fame and 2023 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee. Portsmouth honored her by renaming a street Missy Elliott Boulevard in 2023

Perry Ellis, award-winning fashion designer and founder of Perry Ellis International fashion house

Chandler Harper, professional golfer who won the PGA Championship in 1950, the PGA tour seven times, played in the 1955 Ryder Cup, won the Virginia State Amateur three times, and the Virginia State Open nine times, a record that still stands today

W. Nathaniel Howell, US diplomat and Ambassador to Kuwait during the 1990 invasion by Iraq, marking the beginning of the Gulf Wars.

D.L. Hughley, actor and stand-up comedian

LaShawn Merritt, 2008 Olympic gold medalist and world champion in track and field

Tommy Newsom, Emmy award-winning saxophone player and later assistant in the NBC Orchestra on *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson*

Patton Oswalt, Emmy and Grammy winning stand-up comedian and actor

Clarence "Ace" Parker, professional NFL football and MLB baseball player, 1972 Pro Football Hall of Fame and the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame inductee

Wanda Sykes, Emmy-winning writer, TV star and comedian

Adrienne Warren, Tony Award winner, singer, dancer, actress best known for her work in *I Tina* and *The Woman King*

FAMOUS RESIDENTS OF PORTSMOUTH

Ben Jones, actor and politician, arrived in Portsmouth at two months old and spent his early life here, before becoming an actor and then a US Congressman

Ralph Wolfe Cowan, born in Phoebus but grew up Portsmouth, prolific portrait artist who painted world-famous public figures from Princess Grace of Monaco to Elvis Presley

Roger Brown, born in Surry, the owner of Roger Brown's Restaurant and Sports Bar in Portsmouth, NFL defensive tackle and named the NFL's 1962 Outstanding Defensive Lineman





HISTORICAL FIGURES IN PORTSMOUTH

The traitor **Benedict Arnold** spent several months in Portsmouth in 1781, establishing his base for the British Army and commandeering a sugar warehouse to convert to a prison for American soldiers.

British General Charles Cornwallis made Portsmouth his temporary headquarters before moving to Yorktown and his eventual defeat in October 1781.

The **Marquis de Lafayette** visited Portsmouth in October 1824 during his return to America. He was honored as a hero with 42 bonfires, a parade through the city, and a meet-and-greet on the porch of the Ball-Nivison House. Monuments to Lafayette can be found at City Park, the corner of High and Crawford and at Lafayette Park on Crawford St.

James Armistead Lafayette, an enslaved African American, served in the Continental Army under Marquis de Lafayette as a courier, laborer, and spy. Posing as a runaway slave to General Cornwallis in Portsmouth in 1781, he gathered vital information on important troop deployment, aiding George Washington in winning the war. He was emancipated in 1781 and took on the name Lafayette in honor of the Marquis. His portrait hangs in The Valentine Museum, Richmond, Virginia.

William Flora was born in Portsmouth in 1755 to free African American parents when the city was still part of the Virginia Colony of the British Empire. A hero of the Battle of Great Bridge in 1775, he fought under Colonel William Woodford and was the last of the patriots to retreat across the bridge. Under heavy fire, he stopped and pulled up enough of the bridge's planking to prevent the British advance. The owner of a livery stable at the corner of London and Middle and a successful businessman, he was both respected and well-liked by the Portsmouth community.

William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody made Portsmouth the grand finale location of his Buffalo Bill's Wild West Tour, which ended on November 11, 1916, at Washington and Lincoln Streets. A monument to his last performance sits behind One High Street on Water Street.

(LEFT PHOTO) **MISSY ELLIOTT, BESTIVAL ISLE OF WIGHT, HAMPSHIRE SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2015** PHOTO BY UKNIP/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

(FAR LEFT PHOTO) **ADRIENNE WARREN WALKING THE RED CARPET WHILE AT THE OLIVIER AWARDS.** PHOTO BY ALAMY STOCK PHOTO.

(MIDDLE PHOTO) **PROMOTIONAL PHOTO OF RUTH ALSTON BROWN, C. 1955.** PHOTO BY ALAMY STOCK PHOTO.

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO) **CHARLES CORNWALLIS** PHOTOS BY ISTOCK PHOTO/ GEORGIOSART

(BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO) **THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE** PHOTOS BY ISTOCK PHOTO/ TRAVELER1116



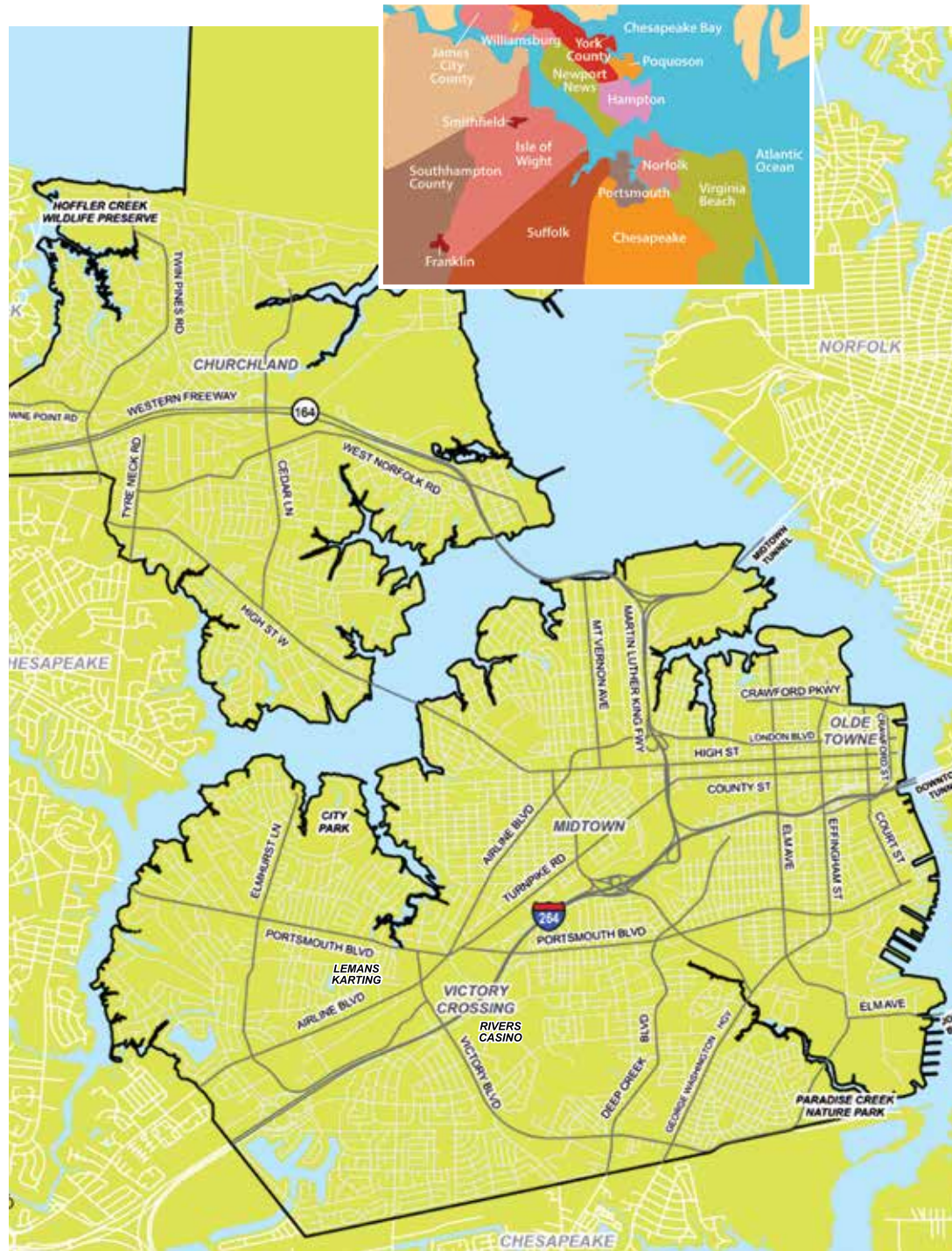
Getting Here

Norfolk International Airport is about 10 miles from Portsmouth. The airport is serviced by all the major carriers. Rental cars available on site or use taxis, Uber, or Lyft to reach Portsmouth.

Amtrak serves both Norfolk and Newport News. From Norfolk Amtrak, Portsmouth is less than 3 miles away. Pick up Hampton Roads Transit's Light Rail to downtown Norfolk and then take the Elizabeth River Ferry to Portsmouth all for \$4.50. If you choose to walk to the ferry, it's less than one mile along the Elizabeth River Walking Trail. Of course, taxis, Uber, and Lyft are widely available.

Cruise Lines arrive and depart from Half Moone Cruise Center. Passengers can take a short walk to Waterside and pick up the ferry to enjoy Olde Towne Portsmouth. Ferry passage is \$2 each way or purchase a day pass for \$4.50 and take advantage of all HRT services. American Cruise Lines sometimes dock in Portsmouth, passengers should check their itineraries. For cruises originating and ending in Norfolk, passengers should check Portsmouth hotels for pre or post cruise discounts.

Driving by Car visitors can easily access Portsmouth from Interstates 264, 464, and 664. You should note there is a toll when using the downtown or midtown tunnel as well as the South Norfolk Jordan Bridge. Toll rates vary and are collected through a Pay By Plate program. If you have an EZ Pass, toll rates are discounted. Once here, parking is available on the street and in garages in the Olde Towne areas and in easily accessible lots at all outlying attractions.



Staying Here – Hotels

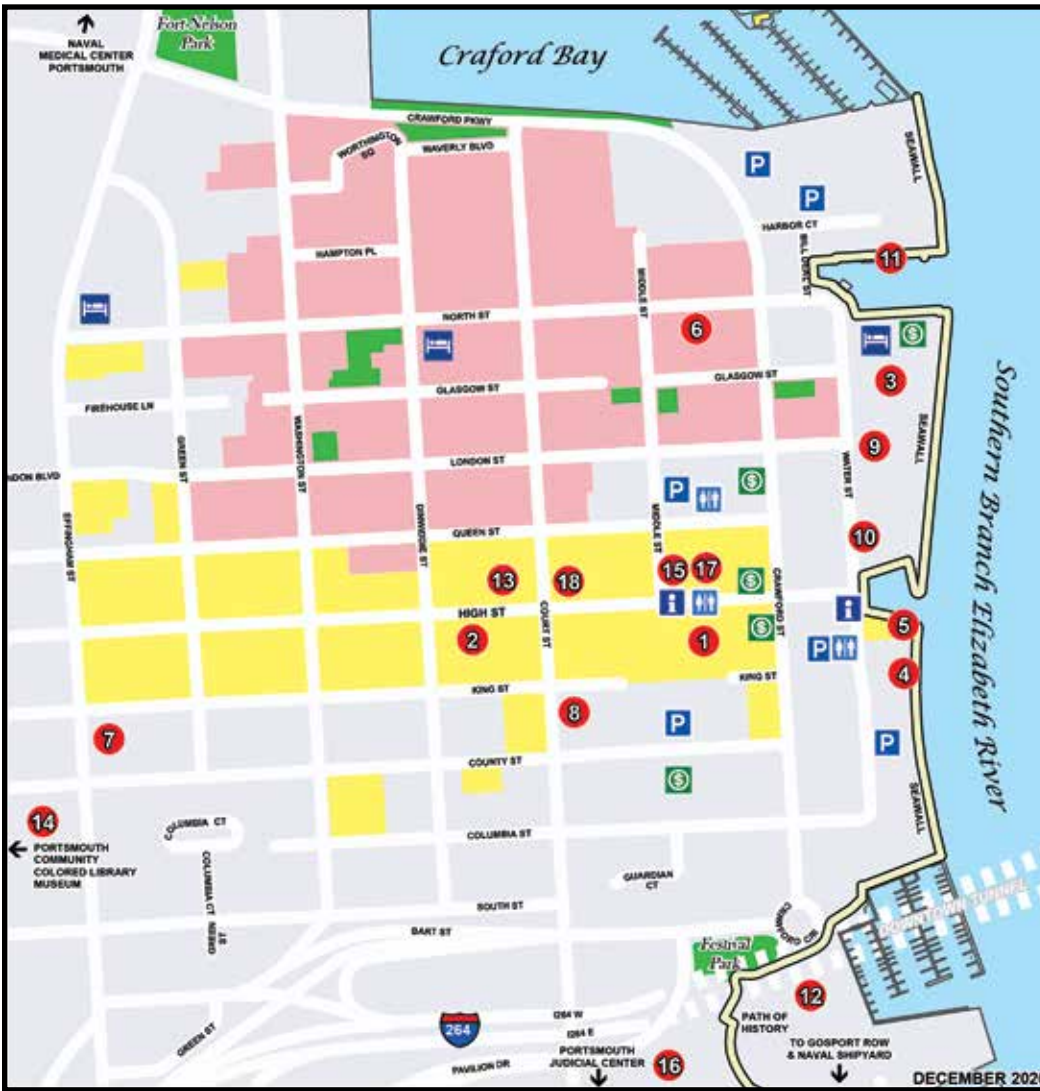
The Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel is a full-service hotel, newly renovated, where every room looks out over the harbor. The Conference Center is ideal for meetings and special events. 425 Water Street.

The Quality Inn Olde Towne is a limited-service property located on the western border of the historic district just outside the gates of the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth. 347 Eppingham Street.

Super 8 Portsmouth is a limited-service property located next door to the Quality Inn. 333 Eppingham Street.

Red Roof Inn is a limited-service property located on London Boulevard near a variety of fast food restaurants. 925 London Boulevard.

Motel 6 is a limited-service property located just past the Red Roof and next door to the Virginia ABC store and Dollar Tree. 1031 London Boulevard.



- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1 Children's Museum of Virginia | 10 Naval Shipyard Museum | Olde Towne Historic District |
| 2 Commodore Theater | 11 North Ferry Landing | Shopping & Dining |
| 3 Conference Center | 12 Atlantic Union Bank Pavilion | Parks |
| 4 Fresnel Lens | 13 Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center | Hotel |
| 5 High Street Ferry Landing | 14 Portsmouth Community Colored Library | Information |
| 6 Hill House Museum | 15 Portsmouth Welcome Center (Early 2020) | Parking |
| 7 Jewish Museum & Cultural Center | 16 Railroad Museum of Virginia | Restrooms |
| 8 Library | 17 Visitor Center Gift Shop | ATM |
| 9 Lightship Portsmouth Museum | 18 Visual Arts Center & Gallery (TCC) | |



Short Term Rentals and Extended Stay

You will find a number of homes offered for short term rental and extended stays on various lodging websites like AirBnB and VRBO. Harbor Tower, located on the Elizabeth River in Olde Towne offers extended stay with leases starting at 3 months for fully furnished apartments.

Marinas

Portsmouth offers seven marinas with transient boat slips for overnight stays. There are two Suntext, full-service marinas along the Olde Towne Waterfront,

Tidewater Yacht and Ocean Yacht Marina that are within walking distance to shopping, dining and entertainment. The city dock at High Street Landing offers free docking for vessels less than 40 feet staying less than 36 hours. There are no services at the city dock and it is first come first served.

(TOP RIGHT PHOTO)
HIGH STREET LANDING SELFIE
 PHOTO BY PORTSMOUTH TOURISM

(BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO)
SUNSET ON THE WESTERN BRANCH OF THE ELIZABETH RIVER
 PHOTO BY DEANN TROEN PHOTOGRAPHY





TIDEWATER YACHT MARINA – OLDE TOWNE PHOTO BY NELS MIZE


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